

**Council on Postsecondary Education
September 22, 2002**

Executive Summary

Discussion –

Budget Decisions in Times of Fiscal Constraint

Dennis Jones, President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), will lead a discussion on ways in which state governments, postsecondary systems, and institutions can continue to move a statewide public agenda forward in tight fiscal times.

Mr. Jones' presentation will focus on the need to link strategic planning and budgeting. Key subject areas of the presentation will include strategic management, the creation and maintenance of institutional capacity, identification of budget trade-offs, sources of institutional revenue, and budget evaluation strategies.

Following Mr. Jones' presentation, UK President Lee Todd will address concerns raised by the council members at its July meeting about how the universities are preparing to absorb a budget cut if one is announced. President Todd, as convener of presidents, will present a system response. His presentation will discuss, in general terms, some of the things institutions may consider when addressing a budget cut while maintaining access and without placing an undue burden on students. Also, he will discuss ways in which institutions can continue to move the statewide public agenda forward.

At the August 12 SCOPE meeting, Budget Director Jim Ramsey said that after the first quarter of this FY 2002-03, which ends September 30, the Governor may convene the Consensus Forecast Group to review the economic outlook for the current fiscal year.